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Amendment G (cont.)

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REMARKS

The Applicant has amended the specification and claims to define the invention more particularly and distinctly so as to overcome the examiner's rejections, and to define the invention patentably over the prior art.

1. Rejection of Claims 1, 11-15, 35-36, and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Posson (4,220,087):

Applicant has amended the previously presented Claim 1 to distinguish the invention from Posson (087) and other similar, prior art devices, as follows:

The applicant finds that the terminology used to identify the claimed "fuel component" element of the invention is indistinct and ambiguous, and this term was reasonably interpreted by the examiner to represent a corresponding feature in Posson (087). In particular, Posson includes a "fuel component" in the pyrotechnic composition disclosed for a fuse structure (#18 or 23 or 26 or 42 or 68; col. 2, lines 11 – 21). Posson does not provide for the sustained combustion of a secondary element, but nonetheless does include a fuel component in the deflagrative pyrotechnic composition of that device's fuse element.

In contrast, the present invention provides for at least one body of a free-burning fuel composition, separate and distinct from the invention's rapid ignition means. This separate, free-burning body of combustible material distinguishes the present invention

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from Posson's rapid ignition device, by providing exterior flame generation for a period of between 10 seconds and 5 minutes.

By way of this amendment, the applicant has substituted the term "kindling body" for the term "fuel component", in the claims and specification, to more accurately describe and identify the subject element of the present invention. This change in terminology better reflects the functional and structural attributes of the claimed element, in that the application clearly discloses at least one separate and distinct body of a fire-starting fuel composition. The inclusion of such a feature is neither taught, nor suggested, in Posson or other similar prior art devices.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines kindling as an "easily combustible material for starting a fire", and the dictionary.com website defines the term as a "material that can be readily ignited, used in starting a fire". The present application discloses one or more distinct bodies of a combustible material that, upon ignition by connectively-arranged rapid ignition means, sustains free-burning combustion for setting fire to nearby vegetative matter. The specification and claims have been amended to more accurately define the disclosed flame-generating structural element as a "kindling body", which is comprised of a previously disclosed fuel composition.

The essential form and function of the element has not been modified, rather applicant has substituted one term for another that more precisely identifies the element and

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eliminates ambiguity in its meaning. The claimed "kindling body" element is further qualified by the limitation of combustible materials that may comprise the kindling body, and by defining the duration of time in which the body exhibits flaming combustion.

Applicant requests that Claim 1, as presently amended, be allowed based on the significant distinction between the subject matter disclosed in Posson (087), and the invention of the present application.

2. Objection to Claims 7, 16-18, 26, 47, and 49 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to address the issues on which the Examiner formed a basis for rejection of the Claim, and requests that dependent claims be allowed as amended.

3. Amendments to the Specification

The following paragraphs have been amended to substitute the term "kindling body" for the original terms "fuel component" and "fuel composition", as used in the original or previously amended claims, and to correctly identify the corresponding part numbers shown in the drawings: Paragraphs [0035], [0040], [0047], [0050], [0053], [0055], [0056], [0058], [0059], [0061], [0062], and [0063]

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This change in terminology is made to more accurately identify and describe the corresponding element of the invention, and does not add new material to the original disclosure.

3. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is amended as described in remark #1 above.

Claims 2, 7, 11 and 12 are cancelled.

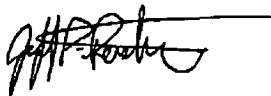
Claims 16 and 17 are amended to reflect the terminology change described in remark #1.

Claim 76 is amended to substitute the term "fuel composition" for "fuel component".

CONCLUSION

For all of the above reasons, applicant submits that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore the applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully solicited.

Very Respectfully,



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Applicant Pro Se